

STFW



PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of Hans **HORN** et al.

Appln. No.: 10/542,731

Confirmation No.: **8426**

Filed: 07/20/2005

Art Group: **3722**

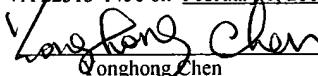
For: **RING BINDER MECHANISM**

Attorney Docket No.: **3827.135**

Customer Number: **30448**

CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.8(a)

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited either by facsimile to 571-273-8300 or with the U.S. Postal Service as First Class mail in an envelope addressed to Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on February 1, 2007.

 **Langhong Chen**, Reg. No. 56,150
Langhong Chen

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.97 and §1.98**

Mail Stop Amendment

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. §1.56, Applicant hereby notifies the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office of the following documents for the above-identified application. Copies of any non-US documents set forth below and listed on the attached Form PTO/SB/08A, copy of the International Search Report (ISR) issued in the corresponding PCT application are provided herewith. A copy of an English translation of the International Preliminary Report on Patentability is also enclosed herewith.

1. WO 01/81099 A1 (English abstract is provided on the cover page)
2. US 3,993,374
3. US 4,566,817

4. US 4,130,368
5. EP 0 808 725 A1 (in English)

Documents 1-5 are cited in the ISR. A concise explanation of relevancy for each non-English document is provided below:

Document 1

It is indicated in the ISR that page 10, line 18 to page 19, line 29 and Figs. 1b, 5a, and 7a of Document 1 are "X" category relevant to claims 1-7 and 10 of the corresponding PCT application.

Since the present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed before the mailing date of the first office Action, no certificate under 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e) or fee under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p) is required.

The submission of the listed documents is not intended as an admission that any such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application. Applicants do not waive any right to take any action that would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove any listed document as a competent reference against the claims of the present application.

Applicants respectfully request that the listed documents be considered by the Examiner and be made of record in the present application and that an initialed copy of Form PTO/SB/08A be returned in accordance with MPEP §609.

Respectfully submitted,



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Substitute for form 1449/PTO

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet 1 of 1

<i>Complete if Known</i>	
Application Number	10/542,731
Filing Date	07/20/2005
First Named Inventor	Hans Horn
Art Unit	3722
Examiner Name	
Attorney Docket Number	3827.135

U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages Or Relevant Figures Appear	T
		Country Code ³ -Number ⁴ -Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				
		WO 01/81099 A1	11-01-2001	ESSELTE LEITZ GMBH & CO KG		
		EP 0 808 725 A1	11-16-1997	LECO STATIONERY MANUFACTURING CO. LTD.		

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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***EXAMINER:** Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. ¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 (1-800-786-9199) and select option 2.